

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 231394

70

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 IO-14 INT-08 SCEM-02 AID-20 COME-00

FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01

OMB-01 STR-08 CEA-02 GSA-02 /252 R

DRASTED BY EB/ORF/FSE:LRRAICHT:LRR

APPROVED BY IB:WCARMSTRONG

----- 077212

O 260243Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL OECD CAPITALS IMMEDIATE

USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

USINT ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE

USINT BAGHDAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 231394

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 231394

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S ENERGY MESSAGE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S ADDRESS OF
NOVEMBER 25 ON ENERGY:

1. THREE WEEKS AGO, I SPOKE WITH YOU ABOUT THE NATIONAL ENERGY CRISIS AND OUR POLICY FOR MEETING IT. TONIGHT I WANT TO TALK WITH YOU AGAIN TO REPORT ON OUR PROGRESS AND TO ANNOUNCE FURTHER STEPS WE MUST TAKE TO CARRY OUT OUR ENERGY POLICY.

2. WHEN I SPOKE TO YOU EARLIER, I INDICATED THAT THE SUDDEN CUTOFF OF OIL FROM THE MIDDLE EAST HAD TURNED THE SERIOUS ENERGY SHORTAGES WE EXPECTED THIS WINTER INTO A MAJOR CRISIS.

3. THAT CRISIS IS NOW BEING FELT AROUND THE WORLD, AS OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS HAVE ALSO SUFFERED FROM CUTBACKS IN OIL FROM THE MIDEAST. SHORTAGES IN EUROPE, FOR INSTANCE, ARE FAR MORE CRITICAL THAN THOSE WE FACE HERE AT HOME. ALREADY, 7 EUROPEAN NATIONS HAVE IMPOSED A TOTAL BAN ON SUNDAY DRIVING.

4. FORTUNATELY, THE UNITED STATES IS NOT AS DEPENDENT UPON MIDDLE EASTERN OIL AS MANY OTHER NATIONS. NEVERTHELESS, WE ANTICIPATE THAT OUR SHORTAGES COULD RUN AS HIGH AS 17 PERCENT. THIS MEANS THAT WE MUST IMMEDIATELY TAKE STRONG, EFFECTIVE COUNTERMEASURES.

5. IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE DISRUPTIONS IN OUR ECONOMY, I ASKED ON NOVEMBER 7 THAT ALL AMERICANS ADOPT CERTAIN ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES TO HELP MEET THE CHALLENGE OF REDUCED ENERGY SUPPLIES. THESE STEPS INCLUDE REDUCTIONS IN HOME HEATING, REDUCTIONS IN DRIVING SPEEDS, AND ELIMINATION OF UNNECESSARY LIGHTING. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE BEEN RESPONDING TO THIS CHALLENGE WITH THAT SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE WHICH HAS MADE US A GREAT NATION.

6. THE CONGRESS ALSO HAS BEEN MOVING FORWARD ON THE ENERGY FRONT. THE ALASKAN PIPELINE BILL HAS BEEN PASSED, AND I SIGNED IT INTO LAW NINE DAYS AGO. THE CONGRESS UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 231394

HAS PASSED A FUEL ALLOCATION BILL, WHICH I WILL SIGN INTO LAW ON TUESDAY. AN ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY BILL PROVIDING SPECIAL AUTHORITY TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM HAS NOW PASSED THE SENATE. WHEN THE HOUSE RETURNS FROM ITS RECESS, I AM CONFIDENT IT WILL MOVE PROMPTLY SO THAT THIS VITAL LEGISLATION CAN BE SIGNED INTO LAW BY MID-DECEMBER.

7. WE HAVE MADE ENCOURAGING PROGRESS. BUT THERE IS MORE TO BE DONE.

8. I HAVE APPOINTED AN ENERGY EMERGENCY ACTION GROUP, UNDER MY CHIEF ENERGY ADVISER, GOVERNOR JOHN LOVE, TO ANALYZE OUR SITUATION ON A CONTINUING BASIS, AND TO ADVISE

ME OF ALL ACTIONS REQUIRED TO DEAL WITH IT. UPON ITS RECOMMENDATION, I AM ANNOUNCING TONIGHT THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS TO MEET THE ENERGY CRISIS:

9. FIRST, TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF HEATING OIL THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE THIS WINTER, WE MUST ADJUST PRODUCTION SCHEDULES, AND DIVERT PETROLEUM WHICH MIGHT NORMALLY GO FOR THE PRODUCTION OF GASOLINE TO THE PRODUCTION OF MORE HEATING OIL. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, THE AMOUNT OF GASOLINE WHICH REFINERS DISTRIBUTE TO WHOLESALERS AND RETAILERS WILL BE REDUCED 15 PERCENT.

10. AS WE REDUCE GASOLINE SUPPLIES, WE MUST ACT TO INSURE THAT THE REMAINING GASOLINE AVAILABLE IS USED WISELY. AND CONSERVED TO THE FULLEST EXTENT. THEREFORE, AS A SECOND STEP, I AM ASKING TONIGHT THAT ALL GASOLINE FILLING STATIONS CLOSE DOWN THEIR PUMPS BETWEEN 9 P.M. SATURDAY AND MIDNIGHT SUNDAY EVERY WEEKEND, BEGINNING DECEMBER 1. WE ARE REQUESTING THAT THIS STEP BE TAKEN VOLUNTARILY NOW. UPON PASSAGE OF THE EMERGENCY ENERGY LEGISLATION BEFORE THE CONGRESS, GAS STATIONS WILL BE REQUIRED TO CLOSE DURING THESE HOURS. THIS STEP SHOULD NOT RESULT IN ANY SERIOUS HARDSHIP FOR ANY AMERICAN

FAMILY. IT WILL, HOWEVER, DISCOURAGE LONG-DISTANCE DRIVING DURING WEEKENDS.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 231394

11. THIS SAVINGS ALONE IS ONLY A SMALL PART OF WHAT WE HAVE TO CONSERVE TO MEET THE TOTAL GASOLINE SHORTAGE. WE CAN ACHIEVE SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL SAVINGS BY ALTERING OUR DRIVING HABITS. WHILE THE VOLUNTARY RESPONSE TO MY REQUEST FOR REDUCED DRIVING SPEEDS HAS BEEN EXCELLENT, IT IS NOW ESSENTIAL THAT WE HAVE MANDATORY AND FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THIS IMPORTANT STEP ON A NATIONWIDE BASIS. THE THIRD STEP, THEREFORE, WILL BE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT FOR AUTOMOBILES OF 50 MILES PER HOUR NATIONWIDE AS SOON AS OUR EMERGENCY ENERGY LEGISLATION PASSES THE CONGRESS. WE EXPECT THIS MEASURE TO PRODUCE A SAVINGS OF 200 THOUSAND BARRELS OF GASOLINE PER DAY. INTER-CITY BUSES AND HEAVY-DUTY TRUCKS, WHICH OPERATE MORE EFFICIENTLY AT HIGHER SPEEDS, WILL BE PERMITTED TO OBSERVE A 55 MILE PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT.

12. THE FOURTH STEP WE ARE TAKING INVOLVES OUR JET AIRLINERS. THERE WILL BE A PHASED REDUCTION OF AN ADDITIONAL 15 PERCENT IN THE CONSUMPTION OF JET FUEL FOR PASSENGER FLIGHTS, BRINGING THE TOTAL REDUCTION TO APPROXIMATELY 25 PERCENT. THESE SAVINGS WILL BE ACHIEVED BY A CAREFUL REDUCTION IN SCHEDULES, COMBINED WITH AN

INCREASE IN PASSENGER LOADS. WE WILL NOT HAVE TO STOP AIR TRAVEL, BUT WE WILL HAVE TO PLAN FOR IT MORE CAREFULLY.

13. THE FIFTH STEP INVOLVES CUTTING BACK ON OUTDOOR LIGHTING. AS SOON AS THE EMERGENCY ENERGY LEGISLATION PASSES THE CONGRESS, I SHALL ORDER THE CURTAILMENT OF ORNAMENTAL OUTDOOR LIGHTING FOR HOMES AND THE ELIMINATION OF ALL COMMERCIAL LIGHTING EXCEPT THAT WHICH IDENTIFIES PLACES OF BUSINESS. IN THE MEANTIME, WE ARE ALREADY PLANNING TO CURTAIL SUCH LIGHTING AT THE WHITE HOUSE THIS CHRISTMAS, AND I AM ASKING THAT ALL OF YOU ACT NOW ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY LIGHTING.

14. AS JUST ONE EXAMPLE OF THE IMPACT WHICH SUCH AN INITIATIVE CAN HAVE, THE ENERGY CONSUMED BY ORNAMENTAL GAS LIGHTS ALONE IN THIS COUNTRY IS EQUIVALENT TO 35,000 BARRELS PER DAY OF OIL. THIS IS ENOUGH FUEL TO UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 231394

HEAT 175 THOUSAND HOMES DAILY.

15. FINALLY, I WANT TO REPORT TO YOU TONIGHT THAT WE HAVE NOW DEVELOPED FINAL PLANS FOR ALLOCATING REDUCED QUANTITIES OF HEATING OILS THIS WINTER. THESE PLANS, TO BE PUBLISHED TUESDAY, WILL CALL FOR AN AVERAGE REDUCTION OF 10 PERCENT OF HEATING OIL FOR INDUSTRIAL USE, 15 PERCENT FOR HOME USE, AND 25 PERCENT FOR COMMERCIAL USE.

16. THE REDUCTIONS FOR HOMEOWNERS ALONE WILL RESULT IN A SAVINGS OF SOME 315 THOUSAND BARRELS OF HEATING OIL A DAY, ENOUGH TO HEAT OVER 1 1/2 MILLION HOMES DAILY. FOR THE AVERAGE AMERICAN FAMILY, AS I INDICATED THREE WEEKS AGO, THIS CUTBACK IN HEATING OIL SHOULD NOT MEAN SEVERE DISCOMFORT FOR ANYONE BUT IT WILL MEAN THAT EVERYONE SHOULD

LOWER THE THERMOSTAT IN HIS HOME BY SIX DEGREES BELOW ITS NORMAL SETTING, TO ACHIEVE A NATIONAL DAYTIME AVERAGE OF 68 DEGREES. THOSE WHO FAIL TO ADOPT SUCH A CUTBACK RISK RUNNING OUT OF FUEL BEFORE THE WINTER IS OVER.

17. WHILE ADDITIONAL ACTIONS WILL BE NECESSARY TO FURTHER OFFSET THE ANTICIPATED SHORTAGE OF 17 PERCENT, THE STEPS WHICH I HAVE OUTLINED TONIGHT WILL RELIEVE ABOUT 10 PERCENT OF THIS SHORTAGE. THEY WILL MAKE A VERY SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO OUR IMMEDIATE GOAL OF INSURING THAT WE HAVE ENOUGH FUEL TO BE ADEQUATELY WARM IN OUR HOMES THIS WINTER, THAT WE ARE ABLE TO GET TO WORK, AND THAT WE EXPERIENCE NO SERIOUS DISRUPTIONS IN THE NORMAL CONDUCT OF OUR LIVES.

18. ABOVE ALL, EVERY STEP WILL BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT ANY DISRUPTIONS TO OUR ECONOMY WHICH MAY OCCUR ARE SHORT-LIVED, AND THAT THEY DO NOT CAUSE LASTING DAMAGE.

19. NOTHING WE DO CAN SUCCEED, HOWEVER, WITHOUT THE FULL COOPERATION OF THE CONGRESS IN PROVIDING THE LEGISLATION WE MUST HAVE, WITHOUT THE FULL COOPERATION OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN PROVIDING THE BROAD LEADERSHIP
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 231394

THAT WE MUST HAVE, AND WITHOUT THE FULL COOPERATION OF ALL THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN SACRIFICING A LITTLE SO THAT NO ONE MUST ENDURE REAL HARDSHIP.

20. FOR MY PART, I PLEDGE TO DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO INSURE THAT THE DECISIONS I HAVE ANNOUNCED WILL BE CARRIED OUT SWIFTLY AND EFFECTIVELY AND WHATEVER ADDITIONAL ACTION IS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVE WILL BE TAKEN.

21. I INTEND TO PARTICIPATE PERSONALLY AND ON A REGULAR BASIS IN THE WORK OF MY ENERGY ADVISORS. I INTEND TO ADVISE THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP REGULARLY OF PROBLEMS AND PROGRESS. I INTEND TO SEE THAT THE PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS HAVING RESPONSIBILITIES AND CAPABILITIES IN THIS AREA ARE FULLY AND REGULARLY INFORMED. WE NEED

NEW RULES IF WE ARE TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE. BUT MOST OF ALL WE NEED SUSTAINED AND SERIOUS ACTION AND COOPERATION BY MILLIONS OF MEN AND WOMEN IF WE ARE TO ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVE.

22. LET ME CONCLUDE BY RESTATING THAT OBJECTIVE. IT CAN BE SUMMED UP IN ONE WORD THAT BEST CHARACTERIZES THIS NATION AND ITS ESSENTIAL NATURE, AND THAT WORD IS "INDEPENDENCE". FROM ITS BEGINNING TWO-HUNDRED YEARS AGO AND THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY, AMERICA HAS MADE GREAT SACRIFICES OF BLOOD AND TREASURE TO ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN ITS INDEPENDENCE. IN THE LAST THIRD OF THIS CENTURY OUR INDEPENDENCE WILL DEPEND ON ACHIEVING AND MAINTAINING SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN ENERGY.

23. WHAT I HAVE CALLED PROJECT INDEPENDENCE - 1980, IS A SERIES OF PLANS AND GOALS SET TO ENSURE THAT BY THE END OF THIS DECADE, AMERICANS WILL NOT HAVE TO RELY ON ANY SOURCE OF ENERGY BEYOND OUR OWN.

24. AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE, WE CAN DO SO CONFIDENT THAT THE ENERGY CRISIS WILL BE RESOLVED, NOT ONLY FOR OUR TIME, BUT FOR ALL TIME. WE ONCE AGAIN HAVE THOSE PLENTIFUL SUPPLIES OF INEXPENSIVE ENERGY WHICH HELPED TO

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 231394

BUILD THE GREATEST INDUSTRIAL NATION AND ONE OF THE
HIGHEST STANDARDS OF LIVING IN THE WORLD. THE CAPACITY
FOR SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN ENERGY IS A GREAT GOAL, AND AN
ESSENTIAL GOAL. WE ARE GOING TO ACHIEVE IT.

25. TONIGHT I ASK ALL TO JOIN TOGETHER IN MOVING TOWARD
THAT GOAL, WITH THE SPIRIT OF DISCIPLINE, SELF-RESTRAINT
AND UNITY WHICH IS THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR GREAT AND
GOOD COUNTRY. KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, CONSERVATION, CONSUMPTION, RATIONING, EMERGENCY PLANNING, PETROLEUM PIPELINES, JET FUEL, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE231394
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731167/abqcejzb.tel
Line Count: 286
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2001 by maustmc>; APPROVED <07 FEB 2002 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT'S ENERGY MESSAGE
TAGS: ENRG, XG, XF, XX, US, (NIXON RICHARD M)
To: ALL OECD CAPITALS
CAIRO
CARACAS
ALGIERS
TRIPOLI
BAGHDAD

KUWAIT
JIDDA
ABU DHABI
TEHRAN
LAGOS
JAKARTA
TEL AVIV
EC BRUSSELS
NATO
AMMAN

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005